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### Black Hebrews Denied Residence

JERUSALEM—Israeli Interior Minister Yosef Burg rejected a proposal by a parliamentary commission that would have legalized the residence in Israel of about 1,500 black Americans belonging to the Black Hebrews cult and said the government would "try to convince them" to leave.

Members of the cult began moving to Israel 12 years ago claiming they were direct descendants of the ancient Israelites. The parliamentary commission recommended that the blacks be permitted to set up an agricultural settlement in the Negev Desert and eventually become citizens.

In a speech to parliament, Burg rejected the proposal, saying the cult had circulated anti-Israeli propaganda in the United States and was dangerously unstable.

The commission was set up to resolve their status after some 900 members of the People's Temple sect committed mass suicide and murder in the jungle of Guyana in November 1978.

"We believe we have to explain to them they are living in absolute danger that the innocent ones could be exploited as was the case in the famous Jonestown in Guyana," Interior Minister Yosef Burg told Israel Radio.

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Washington Post  
11-5-80

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CD-/MR

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